

CASE STUDY

Through the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.2 funding initiative, CHS Group and Aran delivered warmer, more efficient homes while supporting CHS Group's long-term carbon reduction goals



CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

As principal contractor, Aran developed a strong local supply to deliver works at a high standard and on time. Their PAS project experience assisted onsite works and project administration, plus they're very approachable and provide practical solutions to potentially difficult design scenarios. I'd be happy to use Aran on future projects based on current performance."

BRYAN PADLEY,
ASSET MANAGER, CHS GROUP



CLIENT: CHS GROUP (CAMBRIDGE HOUSING SOCIETY)

PROJECT: SOCIAL HOUSING DECARBONISATION FUND (SHDF) WAVE 2.2

PROJECT LIFECYCLE: INITIATED NOVEMBER 2024, COMPLETED AUGUST 2026

OVERVIEW

Aran partnered with CHS Group to deliver a £2.2 million Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.2 programme, supporting the housing provider's long-term strategy to reduce carbon emissions and transition homes away from fossil fuel heating.

Using a whole-house retrofit approach, the project combined insulation upgrades, renewable energy technologies and modern electric heating systems to improve the performance of older homes.

In total, 421 energy efficiency measures were installed, enabling 119 homes to achieve EPC Band C, creating warmer, more affordable homes while supporting CHS Group's journey towards Net Zero 2050. By 2030, CHS Group aims to have all of its housing stock at an EPC of C or above. So far, an impressive 86% of homes have achieved or exceeded this benchmark.

WORKS DELIVERED BY ARAN

- ✓ External Wall Insulation (EWI) to older solid-wall properties
- ✓ Loft and flat roof insulation upgrades
- ✓ Window, front and rear door upgrades
- ✓ Solar PV installations paired with high-retention modern storage heaters
- ✓ Resident liaison and engagement support
- ✓ PAS 2030:2023 compliant retrofit delivery
- ✓ Quality assurance and project administration



OUR APPROACH AND DELIVERY

Aran adopted an area-based delivery approach, allowing improvements to be installed efficiently while minimising disruption to residents.

Detailed property assessments and surveys informed the design of each retrofit measure, ensuring that every home received the most appropriate measures for its construction type and energy requirements.

For older solid-wall homes, External Wall Insulation (EWI) provided substantial thermal performance improvements by reducing heat loss and increasing overall comfort levels. Loft insulation enhancements further improved energy efficiency, while solar photovoltaic systems enabled residents to generate renewable electricity and lower ongoing energy costs.



Modern high-retention storage heaters were installed in electrically heated properties to improve heating performance and efficiency. These systems provide greater controllability and help retain heat for longer periods, supporting lower energy consumption compared to older heating technologies.



KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ 119 homes upgraded to EPC Band C
- ✓ 421 energy efficiency measures installed
- ✓ Improved thermal comfort for residents
- ✓ Reduced household energy consumption and running costs
- ✓ Increased renewable electricity generation through Solar PV technology
- ✓ Contribution towards CHS Group's Net Zero 2050 objectives
- ✓ PAS-compliant retrofit delivery and quality assurance
- ✓ Strong resident satisfaction through proactive communication and engagement
- ✓ Local supply chain, employment and skills development benefits



THE VALUE OF LOCAL DELIVERY

A key factor behind the success of the programme was CHS Group's decision to partner with a regional contractor capable of delivering large-scale retrofit works while maintaining a personalised, responsive service.

Based in East Anglia, Aran brought local knowledge, established supply chain relationships and extensive retrofit expertise to the project. By developing a strong local supply chain, Aran was able to deliver works efficiently, maintain quality standards and respond quickly to project requirements.

Working with a local delivery partner also supported economic growth within the region through local employment opportunities, skills development and investment in regional businesses.

This approach helped create a positive experience for residents while providing CHS Group with confidence that works would be delivered safely, efficiently and to the required quality standards.



WHY PARTNER WITH ARAN?

From initial assessments and PAS compliance through to resident engagement, installation and aftercare, Aran delivers fully compliant retrofit solutions that improve energy efficiency and create warmer, healthier homes.

Whether you're preparing a Warm Homes Plan project, SHDF initiative or wider decarbonisation strategy, Aran provides the expertise and delivery capability to achieve successful outcomes for both residents and housing providers.

Contact Aran today to discuss your next retrofit programme.